

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 RSR-01 /072 W

----- 045486

O 281856 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9852

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 0383

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LY

SUBJECT: LARAF ATTACK ON U. S. AIRCRAFT: NZARG

DEMARCHE AT TRIPOLI

REF: STATE 56804

1. AFTER RECEIPT REFTTEL, WE CONTACTED MFA AND U/ S NA' AS FIXED CHARGE' S CALL ON HIM FOR 1830 LOCAL (1130 EST). ADCM MARTHINSEN ACCOMPANIED CHARGE AND INTERPRETED.
 2. AFTER PRELIMINARY COURTESIES, NA' AS, WHO WAS RELAXED AND CALM THROUGHOUT, HANDED CHARGE TWO- PAGED NOTE IN ARABIC, WITHOUT ANY TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH. MARTHINSEN MADE ROUGH TRANSLATION OF TEXT. BECAUSE OF NOTE' S LENGTH AND DIFFICULT PHRASEOLOGY, TRANSLATION TOOK HALF AN HOUR.
 3. AT CONCLUSION CHARGE ASKED NA' AS IF THIS WAS SAME NOTE THE LIBYAN EMBASSY WAS DELIVERING TO DEPT. HE REPLIED IT WAS THE SAME OR ALMOST SO.
 4. CHARGE THEN SAID THAT HE WOULD REJECT NOTE. REASONS WERE ITS CONTENT AND TONE. AS TO CONTENT, HE POINTED OUT THAT IT CONTAINED FACTUAL ERRORS, NOTABLY THAT THE INCIDENT HAD OCCURRED IN A LIBYAN TERRITORIAL
- SECRET

SECRET

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AREA AND THAT THE LIBYAN PLANES HAD NOT FIRED ON THE AMERICAN PLANE. IF THIS WERE ALL, CHARGE SAID, HE MIGHT TAKE A DIFFERENT ATTITUDE, BUT THE NOTE ALSO CONTAINED ANTI- AMERICAN GENERALIZATIONS AND ACCUSATIONS. HE DID NOT ACCEPT THE NOTE AND COULD ONLY OBTAIN FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON.

5. NA' AS REPLIED THAT HE WAS PUZZLED WHY CHARGE WOULD NOT ACCEPT NOT IN VIEW US AND FRENCH INTRANSIGENCE ON THE QUESTION, EMBASSY WONDERS IF DEPARTMENT COULD RECONSIDER ACCOMMODATING OUR VIEWS TO THOSE OF THE ALLIES. (UK AND FRENCH EMBOFFS TELL US THEIR GOVERNMENTS ONLY RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO DRAFTING CHANGES REF B, AND DO NOT FEEL THEY CAN BEND ON THE LINKAGE ISSUE.)
HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, LY, n/a
To: AF
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